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May 9, 1961

Dr. Myron H. Halpern  
Systems Support Engineering  
Aerospace Communications &  
Control Division, Bldg. 10-1  
Radio Corporation of America  
Camden 2, New Jersey

Dear Dr. Halpern:

I was very pleased to receive your letter of May 4, and to learn of RCA's tangible interest in biological studies and instrumentation for exobiology. It is easy to foresee a great many ways in which the talents that are represented in RCA can be of inestimable value for biological research, both on Earth and in space. The electron microscope, among many of Zworykin's contributions should illustrate this well enough.

At the present time, we are actively interested in the application of video techniques to microscopy and microspectrophotometry along the lines of the enclosed statement. In fact my colleague, Dr. Elliott Levinthal, on his way to Europe just a week ago, visited the RCA laboratories at Princeton and did get some very useful information on the properties of developmental UV-sensitive vidicon tubes and of some storage tubes that would be very apt to some of our needs. I am sending a copy of this correspondence to Dr. Levinthal in Europe, and hope that he may find it possible to drop by on his way back about the middle of June. However, I do not know whether it will be possible for him to see this, but I will merely put you on notice that he may attempt to get in touch with you. If this does not work out, I would be very happy to hear from you further as to some specific directions where your interests may closely approach ours and I would certainly look forward to the values that might come from a better mutual acquaintance.

Yours sincerely,

Joshua Lederberg  
Professor of Genetics

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